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170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

JAKOVAC, RYAN J

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PAPER

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-19, and 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 2003/0002521 to Traversat et al (hereinafter Traversat).

Regarding claim 1, Traversat teaches a system for discovering potential devices on a peer-to-peer (P2P) network, comprising:

a seeker device (Fig. 13-15 disclose requesting peers (i.e. seeker device) which look for peers on the network.); and

a plurality of end-user devices operatively connected to the P2P network (Fig. 1B discloses a plurality of peer devices connected to a P2P network.);

wherein each of the plurality of end-user devices is associated with at least one identity files, each identity file comprising at least one searchable element (Paragraph [0297], Peers send peer discovery messages and peer response messages which comprise elements used to provide information and identification. Paragraph [0300]-[0306] identify attributes (i.e. plurality of

searchable elements) of the discovery query message. Paragraphs [0310]-[0315] identify attributes of the response message. See also paragraphs [0206]-[0215] describing service advertisements.);

wherein at least one of the plurality of end-user devices post their at least one identity files on the P2P network using a Web service request to a Web Service Provider (Traversat, Abstract, system for providing resources (i.e. services) to network devices (i.e. devices requesting the service). See also, [0015-0019], P2P files delivering services. Paragraph [0297] and Figures 12-17 disclose peers posting their identity to other peers, discovery proxies, and rendezvous proxies. Paragraph [0292], The discovery proxy receives discovery messages from other peers. Paragraph [0291], Rendezvous peers cache peer and peer group information.);

wherein the seeker device searches the identity files posted on the P2P network to determine at least one device of the end-user devices for a collaboration session (Fig. 13, Peers discover each other through rendezvous proxy. Fig. 14, Peers discover each other through discovery proxy. See also fig. 15-17.); and

wherein the seeker device initiates the collaboration session with the determined end-user devices (Paragraph [0026], Peers discover each other on the P2P network and communicate (i.e. initiate a collaboration session) with each other.).

Regarding claim 2, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the seeker device is a seeker end-user device and the plurality of potential devices are a plurality of potential end-user devices (Figures 12-17 discloses peers as seeker end-user devices and potential end-user devices.).

Regarding claim 3, Traversat teaches the system of claim 2, wherein the seeker end-user device and each of the plurality of potential end-user devices comprises at least one of a personal digital assistant, a laptop, and a cellular phone (Fig. 1B).

Regarding claim 4, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the at least one identity files of the plurality of the potential devices is downloaded from the Web service provider in response to the seeker device sending a Web service request to the Web service provider (Paragraph [0202], A service advertisement uses a WSDL access method to define messages and the collections of operations supported by the service using a WSDL schema.).

Regarding claim 6, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the seeker device is a machine connected to an IP network (Paragraph [0069] discloses peers (i.e. seeker devices) connected to an IP network.).

Regarding claim 7, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the P2P network comprises at least one of Kazaa, OpenNAP, Gnutella, FastTrack, LimeWire, eMule/Kademlia, and Napster (Paragraph [0015] discloses Napster and Gnutella P2P networks. Paragraph [0098] discloses P2P network comprising Napster.).

Regarding claim 8, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein each identity comprises an extensible markup language (XML) file (Paragraph [00274] discloses delivery messages (i.e. identity files) as XML messages.).

Regarding claim 9, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the collaboration session is independent of the P2P network (Paragraph [0292], The discovery proxy receives discovery messages from other peers. Paragraph [0291], Rendezvous peers cache peer and peer group information.).

Regarding claim 10, Traversat teaches a method for a seeker device discovering potential collaborators on a peer-to peer (P2P) network, comprising:

discovering one or more entry point nodes to the P2P network (Fig. 15 discloses a requesting peer discovering another peer.);

registering a seeker device on the P2P network based on the discovered nodes (Paragraph [0028], Rendezvous nodes cache bootstrap node's (i.e. seeker device) advertisements.);

downloading a search form to the seeker device, wherein the search form includes a plurality of search fields for identifying the potential collaborators (Traversat, [0169-0179], peers exchange advertisement documents (i.e. search form). Advertisements describe and publish peer resources and comprise fields including the names of the peer, services, peer identifiers, and other advertisement information. See also the table between [0175-0176].);

performing a search by the seeker device on the P2P network for identifying files that include data for at least one of the search fields (Traversat, fig. 15, discovery response messages

(in response to a discovery request message) contains peer and/or group advertisements.); determining collaborators for a collaboration session from the potential collaborators on the P2P network that correspond to the identity files; and initiating at the collaboration session between the determined collaborators (Abstract, Resources give the devices access to services which implement P2P platform protocols. Paragraph [0145], Peers publicize a service by publishing service advertisements for the service which other peers then discover (i.e. form a collaboration). Paragraph [0015] also discloses P2P systems for delivering services.).

Regarding claim 11, Traversat teaches the method of claim 10, further comprising performing identity provisioning (Fig. 15-17, Peers perform self provisioning by acting as senders and receivers of discovery query messages and discovery response messages. Paragraph [0291], Rendezvous proxy is used by other peers to discover each other. The rendezvous proxy may itself be a peer (i.e. self provisioning)).

Regarding claim 13, Traversat teaches the method of claim 10, further comprising obtaining service and identity availability for a result of the search results (Paragraph [0274], XML messages comprising discovery requests and responses.).

Regarding claim 14, Traversat teaches the method of claim 10, further comprising narrowing the search by searching only the identity files whose filenames include data for at least one of the search fields (Traversat, [0022], searching by filename in a bridged P2P system (i.e. searching the identity files in this system by filename)).

Regarding claim 15, Traversat teaches the method of claim 10, wherein performing the search comprises:

populating at least one of the plurality of search fields; and narrowing the search based on the populated search fields (Traversat, [0022], searching by filename in a bridged P2P system. Paragraph [0098], Bridging is used to forward a search to another peer who modifies the search to his specific P2P network and returns the results. Also, paragraph [0114] discloses narrowing the search scope based on a scope field (i.e. search field). Paragraph [0158], Discovery service may be used to search for peers, peer groups, and pipes (i.e. multiple search criteria).).

Regarding claim 16, Traversat teaches the method of claim 10, wherein discovering one or more entry point nodes to the P2P network comprises: querying a Web service running on a Web service cluster (Fig. 13-17 discloses a peers sending request messages to other peers including rendezvous proxies and discovery proxies.); receiving an identity form from a Web service provider in response to a Web service request (Fig. 15-17, response messages.), the identity form comprises a plurality of information fields (Paragraphs [0310]-[0315] identify attributes of the response message. See also paragraphs [0206]-[0215] describing the attributes of service advertisements); populating one or more of the plurality of information fields; and posting the identity form on the P2P network (Paragraph [0028], Rendezvous nodes cache advertisements (i.e. identity forms) for other nodes.).

Regarding claims 17, 27, and 28, Traversat teaches the method and machine-readable medium for a seeker device discovering potential collaborators on a peer-to peer (P2P) network, comprising:

registering the seeker device with the P2P network (Paragraph [0280], Peers register through the rendezvous node.);

initiating a Web service to a Web service provider (Paragraph [0146]-[0148], Peers provide services to other peers.);

requesting an available P2P server on the P2P network from the Web service provider using the Web service (Paragraph [0146]-[0148], Peers search for and use services requested from nodes providing the service.);

registering the available P2P server in a Web service cluster using the Web service (Paragraph [0146], A peer publicizes a service by publishing a service advertisement for a service which allows other peers to discover the service.);

downloading a search form from the Web service provider to the seeker device, wherein the search form includes a plurality of search fields for identifying the potential collaborators (Traversat, [0169-0179], peers exchange advertisement documents (i.e. search form).

Advertisements describe and publish peer resources and comprise fields including the names of the peer, services, peer identifiers, and other advertisement information. See also the table between [0175-0176].);

performing a search by the seeker device on the P2P network for identity files that include data for at least one of the search fields (Traversat, fig. 15, discovery response messages (in response to a discovery request message) contains peer and/or group advertisements.);

determining the collaborators that correspond to the identify files; and initiating a collaboration session with the collaborators (Abstract, Resources give the devices access to services which implement P2P platform protocols. Paragraph [0145], Peers publicize a service by publishing service advertisements for the service which other peers then discover (i.e. form a collaboration). Paragraph [0015] also discloses P2P systems for delivering services. Paragraph [0098], Bridging is used to connect (i.e. initiate a collaboration session) peers.).

Regarding claim 18, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, wherein registering with a P2P network comprises registering automatically with the P2P network when the seeker device connects to an IP network (Paragraph [0099] discloses automatic discovery (i.e. registering automatically)).

Regarding claim 19, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, wherein initiating a Web service to a Web service provider comprises initiating a Web service to a Web service provider using HTTP/XML/SOAP protocols (Paragraph [0205], web service advertisements use XML protocol.).

Regarding claim 21, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, wherein requesting an available P2P server on the P2P network from the Web service provider using the Web service comprises sending a Web service request using a Web service to the Web service provider, the Web service request requesting a list of available P2P servers (Fig. 13-17 disclose sending

discovery messages (i.e. requesting a list of available P2P servers). The peers may be service providers. See paragraphs [0206]-[0215].).

Regarding claim 22, Traversat teaches the method of claim 21, wherein sending a Web service request using a Web service to the Web service provider comprises sending a Web service request defined in a WSDL service descriptor file using a Web service to the Web service provider (Paragraph [0202], A service advertisement uses a WSDL access method to define messages and the collections of operations supported by the service using a WSDL schema.).

Regarding claim 23, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, further comprising performing identity self-provisioning on the P2P network by: receiving an identity form from the Web service provider in response to a Web service request (Figures 15-17 disclose receiving a response message (i.e. identity form).), the identity form comprises a plurality of information fields (Paragraphs [0310]-[0315] identify attributes of the response message. See also paragraphs [0206]-[0215] describing the attributes of service advertisements); populating one or more of the plurality of information fields; and posting the identity form on the P2P network (Paragraph [0028], Rendezvous nodes cache advertisements (i.e. identity forms) for other nodes.).

Regarding claim 24, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, the search is restricted to those identity files whose filenames include data for at least one of the search fields (Paragraph [0147], The process of finding a service includes a search. Paragraph [0203], The service advertisement points to a file. See also, [0022], searching by filename in a bridged P2P system.).

Regarding claim 25, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, further comprising narrowing the search by: populating at least one of the plurality of search fields (Traversat, , [0022], searching by filename.); narrowing the search based on the populated search fields; and storing the results from the step of narrow in the narrowed result list (Paragraph [0098], Bridging is used to forward a search to another peer who modifies the search to his specific P2P network and returns the results. Also, paragraph [0114] discloses narrowing the search scope based on a scope field (i.e. search field). Paragraph [0158], Discovery service may be used to search for peers, peer groups, and pipes (i.e. multiple search criteria).).

Regarding claim 26, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, wherein the collaboration session is independent of the P2P network (Paragraph [0292], The discovery proxy receives discovery messages from other peers. Paragraph [0291], Rendezvous peers cache peer and peer group information. Paragraph [0026], Peers discover each other on the P2P network and communicate (i.e. initiate a collaboration session) with each other. Paragraph [0098], Peers communicate irrespective of P2P network. See also [0022].).

Regarding claim 29, Traversat teaches the method of claim 10, wherein each identity file is stored as one of an XML file on a P2P shared directory on a potential collaborator or on a distributed Hash Table on the P2P network (Traversat, [0169-0179].).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Traversat in view of U.S. 2003/0217140 to Burbeck et al (hereinafter Burbeck).

Regarding claim 5, Traversat teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the seeker end-user device logs on a Web service provider to gain access to the P2P network using Web services and simple-object access protocols (SOAP) over hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) and internet protocol (IP) networks (Paragraph [0202], A service advertisement uses a WSDL access method to define messages and the collections of operations supported by the service using a WSDL schema.). Traversat does not expressly disclose using SOAP protocols, but Burbeck discloses providing web services to nodes in a P2P network using SOAP to provide XML-based messaging in paragraph [0057] of Burbeck.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine using SOAP as taught by Burbeck with the system of Traversat in order to provide the discovery and publication of web services in a P2P network (Burbeck paragraph [0057]).

Regarding claim 20, Traversat teaches the method of claim 17, further comprising discovering the Web service provider using a UDDI Web service registry and business entities (Burbeck, paragraph [0057], Web services are provided using UDDI messages to access a UDDI registry.).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine using a UDDI Web service registry as taught by Burbeck with the system of Traversat in order to provide the discovery and publication of web services in a P2P network (Burbeck paragraph [0057]).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 06/11/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Traversat does not disclose *wherein at least one of the plurality of end-user devices post their at least one identity files on the P2P network using a Web service request to a Web Service Provider*, however, the abstract of Traversat discloses a system for providing resources (i.e. web services) to network devices (i.e. devices requesting the web service). This is further disclosed in paragraphs [0015-0019], wherein P2P deliver services.

Applicant argues that Traversat does not disclose *downloading a search form from the Web service provider to the seeker device, wherein the search form includes a plurality of search fields for identifying the potential collaborators*, however, in paragraphs [0169-0179] of Traversat peers (i.e. web service provider and seeker devices) exchange advertisement documents (i.e. search forms). Advertisements describe and publish peer resources and comprise fields including the names of the peer, services, peer identifiers, and other advertisement

information (i.e. a plurality of search fields.). This is also disclosed in the table between paragraphs [0175-0176]. Applicant argues that Traversat does not disclose *narrowing the search by searching only the identity files whose filenames include data for at least one of the search fields*, however, searching for files by filename is disclosed in paragraph [0022] of Traversat. Applicant argues that Traversat fails to disclose *restricting the search to those identity files whose filenames include data for at least one of the search fields*, however Traversat discloses searching for services in paragraph [0147] and searching for files by filename in paragraph [0022]. Applicant argues that the combination of Traversat and Burbeck does not teach the limitations of claims 5 and 20 based on the applicant's arguments towards Traversat, however these arguments have been addressed in the above explanations.

Conclusion

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RYAN J. JAKOVAC whose telephone number is (571)270-5003. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason D. Cardone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Patrice Winder/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2145

/RJ/